

AB.H2T Baltic aphotic muddy sediment characterized by sparse epibenthic macrocommunitiy

Author

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Textual description

Baltic aphotic bottoms with at least 90 % coverage of muddy sediment. The sediment must contain at least 20 % of mud, silt or clay (grain size less than 63 µm). Sessile/semi-sessile epibenthic fauna is present but covers less than 10% of the seabed.

Physical environment

Substrate is shell gravel. Depth below approximately 20 m. Appears in all energy exposure classes.

Geographic range

Southern part of Baltic Sea

Anthropogenic threats

Increase in atmospheric CO₂ (Ocean acidification)

Correspondence with other classification systems

HELCOM 1998:

2.7 Muddy bottoms

2.7.1 Aphotic zone

EUNIS 2012:

A5 Sublittoral sediment

A5.3 Sublittoral mud

A5.37 Deep circalittoral mud

A5.378 Baltic muddy bottoms of the aphotic zone
<http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats/2588>